

Prospects of 5G Technology

What is the issue?

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- The global roll-out of 5G commercial services is expected by 2020.
- India government is taking various measures for the sooner deployment of the technology.

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What is 5G technology?

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- 5G promises ultra-reliable, very fast speeds and high bandwidth mobile connectivity, which provides peak speeds of 20 times, compared with 4G.
- It is expected to provide 10-plus Gbps speeds, which allow access to high-bandwidth multimedia and data services for various industry applications.
- 5G is intended to support mission-critical applications such as financial transactions and healthcare, and latency and high speed will be achieved through the use of Fibre optic cables.

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What are Prospects for 5G in India?

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- High-speed broadband remains the top priority for telecom service providers, the government and the citizens alike.
- 5G will significantly contribute in transforming everyday lives of Indians by resolving real issues within e-healthcare, e-education, infrastructure and e-governance.

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- This technology would entail accelerating the BharatNet programme for deploying connectivity infrastructures.
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What are the measures taken by India in this regard?

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- **Bharat Net** - BharatNet project was established in 2017, to provide digital infrastructure on a non-discriminatory basis by an affordable broadband connectivity of 2 Mbps to 20 Mbps for all households.
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- The objective is to facilitate the delivery of e-governance, e-health, e-education, e-banking, Internet and other services to the rural India.
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- **National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN)** -National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) is an ambitious initiative to trigger a broadband revolution in rural areas.
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- It aims to connect all the Gram panchayats in the country and provide 100 Mbps connectivity to all gram panchayats (GPs).
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- **NTP-** Union government has initiated measures to introduce 5G technology in India via the National Telecom Policy (NTP), from March 2018.
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- It aims to achieve 100% tele-density, high-speed internet highways and delivery of citizen-centric services electronically.
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- **Forum to develop 5G roadmap** - Recently, the Department of Telecommunications set up a high-level forum to develop the roadmap for operationalizing 5G services in India by 2020.
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- **Waivers for Private telecoms** -The government also announced a subsidy of `3,600 crore to private telecom players such as Bharti Airtel, Vodafone India and Reliance Jio to set up Wi-Fi in rural areas as part of the second phase of the BharatNet project.
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Source: Financial Express

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